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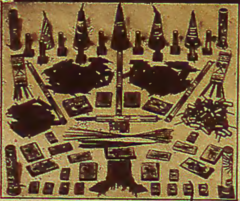

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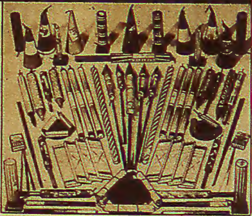

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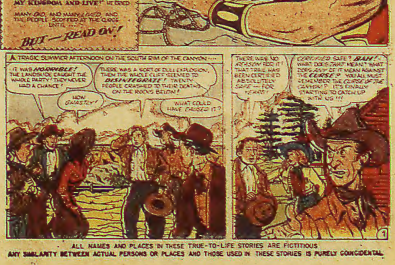
CAVES of DOOM

OH NO!NO! WAIT!!! COME BACK!!! WE'VE GOT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING!
IT IS SAID THAT IN THE DEEP CANYONS OF THE GRAND CANYON IN NORTHERN ARIZONA, IN THE GREAT CANYON KNOWN AS THE GRAND CANYON, THERE LIES BY A WHITE MAN'S BULLET
"NO WHITE MAN SHALL ENTER MY KINGDOM AND LIVE!"
MANY, OH, AND MANY, MANY, AND THE PEOPLE, SCATTERED TO THE CORNERS OF THE EARTH
BUT... READ ON!


A TRAGIC SUNRISE AFTERNOON ON THE SOUTH RIM OF THE CANYON.
IT HAS ARRIVED! THE LAWLESS ONES! THE WHOLE PARTY! THEY NEVER HAD A CHANCE!
HOW QUAINT!
THERE WAS A SORT OF DULL EXPLOSION, THEN THE WHOLE LEFT SIDE OF THE GRAND CANYON SEEMED TO CRUMBLE AND FALL ON THE WHOLE BRIDAL PARTY!
WHAT COULD HAVE CAUSED IT?
THERE WAS NO ANSWER! BUT THAT TRIBE WAS BEHIND IT! THEY ABSOLUTELY HATED THE SIGHT OF MAN!
CORPORAL GAGE? BAH! I WANT SOMETHING! I WANT SOMETHING BIG! I WANT TO MEAN SOMETHING! THE CAVES! YOU ALL MUST EXPLORE THE CAVERNS OF THE CAVES! I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING TO DATE! UP WITH YOU!

ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

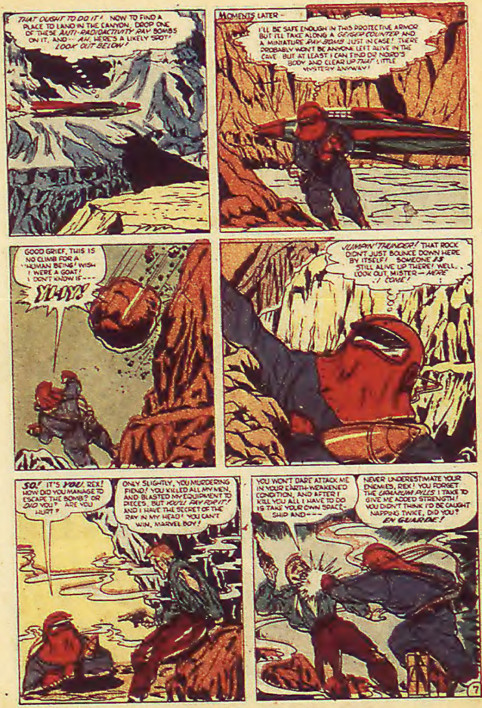
THE CURSE? OF COURSE! IT WON'T BE SAFE FOR ANY WHITE MAN TO GO DOWN INTO THE CANYON AGAIN!
MARE! DON'T BE CHILDISH! NO ONE BELIEVES IN CURSES ANY MORE!
WELL -- (SOB!) -- CURSE OR NO CURSE, MY (SOB!) BROTHER WAS IN THAT PARTY, AND (SOB!) I'M GOING DOWN THERE TO GET HIS BODY!!!
NO, DONNA -- WAIT! THE TRAIL IS GONE -- COMPLETELY! NOT EVEN A MOUNTAIN GOAT COULD CLIMB DOWN THAT CLIFF NOW!
YOU'D BE KILLED FOR SURE, MISS LAKE! BETTER LEAVE THE SEARCH JOB TO THE RANGERS!
AND IT'LL TAKE THEM AT LEAST A WEEK JUST TO GET DOWN THERE -- EVEN IF THEY DARE TO DEFY THE CURSE!
OH -- (SOB!) -- ALL RIGHT! I CAN'T TRY IF YOU WON'T LET ME! BUT I THINK YOU'RE ALL A BUNCH OF -- (SOB!) COWARDS! SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE MAY STILL BE ALIVE AND BADLY INJURED! WELL -- (SOB!) -- IF YOU WON'T TRY TO HELP THEM, I THINK I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WILL! JUST LET ME GET TO A TELEGRAPH STATION!!!
MEANWHILE -- IN A GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ----
--- AND YOU SAY THAT THIS DR. NOIRO JUST SIMPLY VANISHED, SENATOR? TELL ME MORE ABOUT IT ---
WELL, HE'S A CLEVER PHYSICIST, MARVEL BOY ... CAME TO WORK AT ONE OF OUR LARGEST ATOMIC RESEARCH PLANTS, WITH HIGHEST UNIVERSITY REFERENCES, AND HAS SPENT THE PAST TWO YEARS DEVELOPING AN ANTI-RADIOACTIVITY RAY, FOR USE IN CLEARING AREAS IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH MIGHT BE ATTACKED BY ENEMY ATOM-BOMBS ....
THE RAY IS PROJECTED BY MEANS OF A HARMLESS, NOISELESS AERIAL BOMB, TO BE DROPPED ON THE CONTAMINATED REGIONS BY OUR OWN PLANES --- DOCTOR NOIRO RECENTLY COMPLETED SEVERAL HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL TESTS WITH IT, AND THEN -- POOF! HE DISAPPEARED! NOT A TRACE OF HIM ANYWHERE! THERE'S BEEN SOME WILD TALK OF A "FLYING SAUCER" WHISKING HIM AWAY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, BUT ----
PARDON ME, GENTLEMEN --- A TELEGRAM FOR YOU, SIR!
SOMETHING IMPORTANT, MARVEL BOY?
GOSH, SENATOR -- THIS PUTS ME IN A SPOT! FROM DONNA LAKE, DAUGHTER OF A SCIENTIST FRIEND OF MINE ---- SAYS HER BROTHER WAS KILLED, OR LOST, IN AN ACCIDENT AT THE GRAND CANYON, AND SHE WANTS ME TO COME OUT TO INVESTIGATE RIGHT AWAY! BUT YOU WANT ME TO INVESTIGATE THE DISAPPEARANCE OF DR. NOIRO!
2

WELL, I HATE TO ASK YOU TO REFUSE A FRIEND IN TROUBLE, BUT THIS CONCERNS OUR NATIONAL SECURITY! IF DR. NOIRO HAS FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF ENEMY AGENTS....
YES, OF COURSE! YOU'RE RIGHT, SENATOR -- I'LL WIRE DONNA AND EXPLAIN ...
SEVERAL HOURS LATER ...
THIS IS THE PLANT WHERE NOIRO WORKED, AND WHERE HE WAS LAST SEEN, MARVEL BOY -- AND THIS IS SERGEANT RUSSELL, A SECURITY GUARD, WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN THE MYSTERIOUS "FLYING SAUCER"!
HELLO, SERGEANT -- SUPPOSE YOU DESCRIBE THE STRANGE CRAFT TO ME!
WELL SIR, IT WAS MIGHTY DARK THAT NIGHT, AND I COULDN'T SEE TOO WELL, BUT I HEARD AN AWFUL LOUD HUMMING SOUND IN THE AIR, AND WHEN I LOOKED UP I SAW THIS BIG SHADOW -- SEEMED LIKE IT WAS A GREAT ROUND THING, BIG AS A HOUSE, AND IT WHIRLED DOWN RIGHT OVER MY HEAD, AND LANDED IN THE EMPTY PARKING LOT! I BLEW MY WHISTLE TO CALL THE SENTRIES OUT, BUT BEFORE THEY GOT HERE THE THING TOOK OFF AGAIN, AND DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR! BELIEVE ME, I WAS SCARED! I NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE!
I DIDN'T ACTUALLY SEE DR. NOIRO GET INTO THE THING -- I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE AT ALL -- BUT I'D LET HIM OUT OF THE BUILDING MYSELF, AND KNEW HE'D GONE TO GET HIS CAR -- IT WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT IN THE LOT ... THEN THIS BIG SAUCER CAME BUZZING IN, AND AFTER IT HAD GONE I NOTICED THAT THE CAR WAS STILL THERE, BUT DR NOIRO HAD DISAPPEARED! INCIDENTALLY, THE CIVILIAN DEFENSE PLANE SPOTTERS HAVE VERIFIED THE PRESENCE OF THE THING -- IT WAS SEEN IN VIRGINIA, ARKANSAS, NEW MEXICO, AND ARIZONA -- HEADING WEST -- THAT SAME NIGHT!
ARIZONA, EH? WELL, SENATOR, MAYBE I CAN KILL TWO STONES WITH ONE BIRD!
MARVEL BOY RUSHES TO A SMALL AIRPORT, AND--
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, MARVEL BOY?
WELL, THE LAST PLACE THIS "SAUCER" WAS SEEN WAS OVER THE GRAND CANYON -- AND SINCE THAT'S WHERE DONNA IS, I'LL SEE HER, AND TRY TO PICK UP THE TRAIL THERE! SO LONG, SENATOR!
AS EVENING FALLS, THE SAME DAY -- IN A CAVE DEEP IN THE GRAND CANYON ....
SO! OUR INTELLIGENCE WAS ACCURATE! IT'S THE SO-CALLED MARVEL BOY AND HIS URANIAN SPACE-SHIP, COME TO LIQUIDATE US SINGLE-HANDED! WELL... ROLL OUT THE CARPET FOR HIM, COMRADES!!!
3

AND A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN THE LOBBY OF THE CANYON HOTEL—
YOU MEAN MISS LAKE CHECKED OUT? BUT SHE SENT FOR ME! WHEN DID SHE LEAVE?
THIS AFTERNOON, SIR! WE HAD A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT HERE YESTERDAY, AND ANOTHER ONE THIS MORNING.... FORTY-FOUR PEOPLE KILLED IN TWO MYSTERIOUS LANDSLIDES! IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR OUR GUESTS—THEY ALL LEFT TODAY!
IN FACT, EVEN THE NATIVES HERE ARE LEAVING THE COUNTRY! THEY SAY THE CANYON IS CURSED— AND I'M BEGINNING TO BELIEVE IT MYSELF! ONLY THE OTHER NIGHT I SAW THAT "FLYING SAUCER" THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT DIVE DOWN INTO THE CANYON AND DIS-APPEAR—AND SINCE THEN WE'VE HAD NOTHING BUT TROUBLE!
SO IT VANISHED IN THE CANYON, EH? WELL, SIR— IF YOU'LL JUST SHOW ME THE DIRECTION IT TOOK, AND WHERE YOU SAW IT LAST, I THINK I'LL TAKE A LITTLE TRIP DOWN THERE AND SEE WHAT I CAN SEE!
IN LESS THAN AN HOUR....
HERE HE COMES—THE YOUNG FOOL! WELL, WE'RE READY.... WATCH HIM, NOW!
THERE HE GOES! HE HIT THE TRIP-WIRE SQUARELY! AFTER HIM, MEN! QUICKLY, NOW....I DON'T WANT HIM HURT TOO BADLY!
EASY! FISH HIM OUT EASY! TAKE HIM TO THE CAVE AND TIE HIM UP.... I'LL HAVE A WORD WITH HIM WHEN HE COMES TO!

THERE, NOW - HE'S COMING AROUND! --- WELL, MY FOOLHARDY URANIAN FRIEND, SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD JUST BARGE RIGHT IN AND BREAK UP OUR LITTLE PARTY, EH? BUT I EXPECTED YOU! I KNEW WE COULD SCARE OFF THE STUPID AMERICANS WITH OUR QUAINT LITTLE "FLYING SAUCER" IDEA -- THEY DON'T BELIEVE IN SUCH "FANTASTIC THINGS," AND WOULD DISCREDIT ANYONE WHO SAW US -- BUT I FULLY EXPECTED YOU, A FELLOW SPACE-MAN, TO TRACK US DOWN! IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD, HOWEVER, MY FINE STRAW-FILLED HERO! YOU'LL NEVER RECOVER THE SECRET OF THE ANTI-RADIOACTIVITY RAY NOW!!!
SO - IT'S YOU - ORION REX!!! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! YOU'RE RIGHT -- I AM A FOOL! I NEVER SUSPECTED THAT THE PLANETS OF YOUR CONSTELLATION WERE PLANNING A WAR AGAINST EARTH -- BUT I SEE IT NOW! YOU NEED THE PROTECTION OF THE ARMY WHEN YOUR ARMIES INVADE EARTH AND THE EARTH MEN ATOM-BOMB YOU IN SELF-DEFENSE! LUCKY FOR YOU THAT YOU CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD, REX, BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THIS?
OF COURSE, MY YOUNG FRIEND! I ALREADY HAVE THE SECRET, AND SHALL RETURN TO THE HOME PLANET WITH IT AS SOON AS THE WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT FOR SPACE TRAVEL! I AM GOING UP IN THE "SAUCER" NOW, ON A METEOROLOGICAL SURVEY, AND WILL LEAVE ONE MAN HERE WITH YOU. YOU WON'T BREAK OUT OF THOSE BONDS, FOR I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT NEARLY AS STRONG HERE ON EARTH AS YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN PLANET URANUS! SEE YOU LATER, MARVEL BOY!
YOU'LL REGRET THIS, CHUM!
MARVEL BOY WATCHES THE STRANGE SHIP DEPART, THEN .....
LOOK HERE, OLD MAN --- YOU HEARD YOUR CHIEF SAY I'M NOT VERY STRONG, AND THESE ROPES ARE CUTTING MY WRISTS --- HOW ABOUT LOOSENING THEM A LITTLE FOR ME?
WELL -- I GUESS IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT --- LONG'S YOU'RE TOO WEAK TO GET AWAY!
THAT'S THE STUFF, COMRADE --- JUST LOOSE ENOUGH TO -- OOOPS! SO SORRY! NOW, GET OUT OF MY WAY!!! I'M IN A SLIGHT HURRY!
MOMENTS LATER, HE REACHES HIS OWN SPACE-SHIP, AND .....
LOOKS LIKE A BUSY NIGHT FOR YOURS TRULY --- BUT I'VE GOT THIS THING DOPED OUT, AND I CAN'T QUIT NOW! THANK HEAVENS THE SO-CALLED "CURSE OF THE CANYON" SCARED EVERYONE AWAY FOR MILES AROUND! I'LL MAKE A QUICK ROUND-TRIP TO NEVADA, ALERT THE STATE POLICE, AND THEN WE'LL SEE IF REX GETS AWAY WITH HIS CUTE LITTLE SCHEME!

LESS THAN AN HOUR PASSES, AND, AT A HUGE RAMBLING FACTORY IN NEVADA .....
THIS IS A MOST UNUSUAL AND DRASTIC MEASURE, MARVEL BOY, BUT WE'VE SECURED THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, AND OF THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF BY TELEPHONE!
WONDERFUL, GENERAL! THIS IS A MOST UNUSUAL AND DRASTIC CASE! WELL -- IF I'M ALL LOADED AND READY TO GO, I'D BETTER TAKE OFF! WISH ME LUCK SIR!
BY THE TIME I GET BACK THERE, REX SHOULD HAVE RETURNED FROM HIS WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE -- THAT WHOLE CAVE IS JUST LOADED WITH LABORATORY EQUIPMENT HE MUST WANT TO TAKE TO ORION WITH HIM -- AND THIS IS ONE SURE WAY OF GETTING RID OF IT, PERMANENTLY! THE ONLY SURE WAY!
APPROACHING THE CANYON NOW --- BETTER CONTACT THE ARIZONA STATE POLICE BARRACKS --- HELLO -- MB1 TO ASP1, COME IN --- HELLO! EVERYTHING SET, LIEUTENANT? AREA CLEAR? GOOD! COMING IN ON BASE LEG --- STAND BY!
---- ON FINAL APPROACH ---- DIRECTION NORTH-NORTH-EAST -- REDUCING SPEED TO 650 M.P.H. --- NOW -- OVER TARGET! WATCH IT!
WHOOM!!!


THAT OUGHT TO DO IT! NOW TO FIND A PLACE TO LAND IN THE CANYON, DROP ONE OF THESE ANTI-RADIOACTIVITY RAY BOMBS ON IT, AND-- AH, HERE'S A LIKELY SPOT! LOOK OUT BELOW!
MOMENTS LATER -
I'LL BE SAFE ENOUGH IN THIS PROTECTIVE ARMOR BUT I'LL TAKE ALONG A GEIGER COUNTER AND A MINIATURE RAY BOMB JUST IN CASE! THERE PROBABLY WON'T BE ANYONE LEFT ALIVE IN THE CAVE BUT AT LEAST I CAN FIND DR NORO'S BODY AND CLEAR UP THAT LITTLE MYSTERY ANYWAY!
GOOD GRIEF, THIS IS NO CLIMB FOR A "HUMAN BEING"! WISH I WERE A GOAT! I DON'T KNOW IF---
YI-IY!
JUMPIN' THUNDER! THAT ROCK DIDN'T JUST BOUNCE DOWN HERE BY ITSELF! SOMEONE IS STILL ALIVE UP THERE! WELL.. LOOK OUT, MISTER — MORE TO COME!
SO! IT'S YOU, REX! HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO ESCAPE THE BOMB? OR DID YOU? ARE YOU HURT?
ONLY SLIGHTLY, YOU MURDERING FIEND! YOU KILLED ALL MY MEN, AND BLASTED MY EQUIPMENT TO PIECES, BUT YOU'LL PAY FOR IT! AND I HAVE THE SECRET OF THE RAY IN MY HEAD! YOU CAN'T WIN, MARVEL BOY!
YOU WON'T DARE ATTACK ME IN YOUR EARTH-WEAKENED CONDITION, AND AFTER I KILL YOU ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TAKE YOUR OWN SPACE-SHIP AND---
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ENEMIES, REX! YOU FORGET THE URANIUM PILLS I TAKE TO GIVE ME ADDED STRENGTH! YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D BE CAUGHT NAPPING TWICE, DID YOU? EN GUARDE!
7

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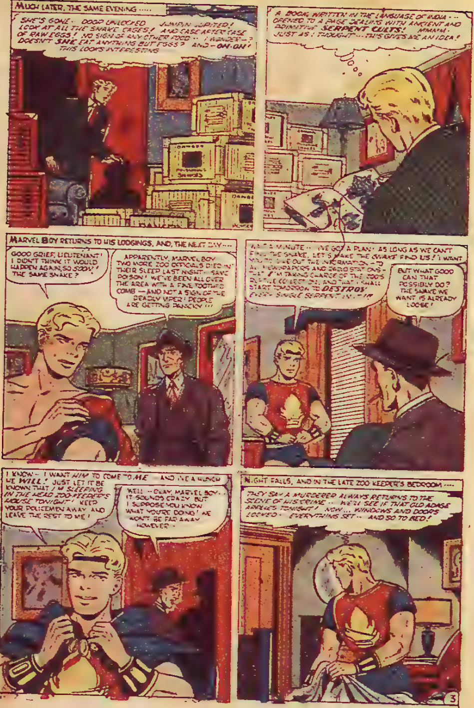
THE SERPENT STRIKES!
LOOK OUT !!! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!! THAT SNAKE IS TURNING ALL THE ANIMALS IN THE ZOO LOOSE !!!
GOOD GRIEF! AN INDIAN MEDICINE MAN! WHAT'S SHE GOING TO DO?
A SUMMER MORNING NEWSPAPER HEADLINE ....
THE MORNING ENQUIRER
DANGEROUS SERPENT ESCAPES FROM ZOO!
AND THE NEXT DAY, AT NOON, IN A SMALL RESTAURANT
SAY, DID YOU GUYS HEAR ABOUT THAT SNAKE GETTING INTO THE HEAD KEEPER'S HOUSE LAST NIGHT, AND LEAVING THE DOOR SUV WHEN HE WAS ASLEEP?
YEAH! A REPORTER FRIEND OF MINE COVERED IT. BY THE WAY, BROTHER, I THINK WE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT INSURANCE? THE COMPANY YOU WORK FOR?
THAT SO? THEN I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE THE PLEASANT JOB OF INVESTIGATING IT! I DON'T LIKE SNAKES!

LATER —
JUST ROUTINE, BOB... ACCIDENTAL DEATH... CERTIFICATES FOR THE DOCTOR AND THE BENEFICIARIES TO SIGN... USUAL PROCEDURE!
YESSIR! AWFUL WAY FOR THE POOR OLD MAN TO DIE, WASN'T IT?
WHY, HELLO, SERGEANT! WHAT'S UP? I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS A CASE FOR HOMICIDE...?
HI, GRAYSON — WELL, WE'RE NOT SURE... IT LOOKS LIKE AN ACCIDENT, BUT... WELL, THE LIEUTENANT ISN'T SATISFIED! THERE HE IS, OVER BY THE REPTILE BUILDING...
HOWDY, MARVEL BOY... THOUGHT YOU'D BE AROUND... DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS! NO POSSIBLE WAY FOR A SNAKE TO GET OUT OF HERE — CAGES GLASSED IN... DOORS LOCKED EACH NIGHT BY THE KEEPER... YET A RARE SPECIMEN DID ESCAPE LAST NIGHT, AND SLIPPED UNDER THE DOOR OF THE HEAD KEEPER'S HOUSE.
AN EXTREMELY RARE AND HIGHLY VENOMOUS SNAKE IMPORTED FROM INDIA WASN'T IT? ...BY THE WAY, ISN'T THAT A YOUNG INDIAN GIRL STANDING OVER THERE? DOES SHE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE CASE?
AT FIRST WE THOUGHT SHE MIGHT, SINCE SHE WAS THE LAST PERSON TO LEAVE THE REPTILE BUILDING WHEN THE KEEPER LOCKED UP, BUT SHE CLEARED HERSELF WHEN WE QUESTIONED HER — DON'T KNOW WHY SHE KEEPS HANGING AROUND —
HMMM! THINK I'LL TRY TO FIND OUT, LIEUTENANT... 'SCUSE ME...
HELLO, MISS... I SEE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SNAKES, TOO — BEAUTIFUL THINGS, AREN'T THEY? WHAT A SHAME THAT SOME OF THEM ARE SO VICIOUS, AND SO DEADLY POISONOUS!
VICIOUS? OH NO, SIR! ZESE LOVELY ANIMALS ARE SACRED IN MY COUNTRY! AND ZEY NEVER ATTACK PEOPLE WHO ARE PURE IN SPIRIT, AND PURE IN BODY! I ZINK ZEY — BUT... BUT I SHOULDN'T TALK TO STRANGERS! EX-EXCUSE ME, PLEASE!
WELL, WELL, WELL! A GENUINE SNAKE-WORSHIPPER! YOU KNOW, SHE JUST MIGHT — BUT THERE'S NO USE SPECULATING! THINK I'LL JUST FOLLOW HER, FIND OUT WHERE SHE LIVES, WAIT MY CHANCE, AND... FIND OUT HOW SHE LIVES!
2


MUCH LATER, THE SAME EVENING .....
SHE'S GONE -- DOOR UNLOCKED -- JUMPIN JUPITER! LOOK AT ALL THE SNAKE CAGES! AND CASE AFTER CASE OF RAW EGGS! NO SIGN OF ANY OTHER FOOD -- I WONDER -- DOESN'T SHE EAT ANYTHING BUT EGGS? AND -- OH-OH! THIS LOOKS INTERESTING
A BOOK WRITTEN IN THE LANGUAGE OF INDIA -- OPENED TO A PAGE DEALING WITH ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE SERPENT CULTS! MMMM -- JUST AS I THOUGHT -- THIS GIVES ME AN IDEA!
MARVEL BOY RETURNS TO HIS LODGINGS, AND, THE NEXT DAY ....
GOOD GRIEF, LIEUTENANT! I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD HAPPEN AGAIN, SO SOON! THE SAME SNAKE?
APPARENTLY, MARVEL BOY. TWO MORE ZOO OFFICIALS DIED IN THEIR SLEEP LAST NIGHT -- SAME POISON! WE'VE BEEN ALL OVER THE AREA WITH A FINE TOOTHED COMB -- AND NOT A SIGN OF THE DEADLY VIPER! PEOPLE ARE GETTING PANICKY!!!
WAIT A MINUTE -- I'VE GOT A PLAN! AS LONG AS WE CAN'T FIND THE SNAKE, LET'S MAKE THE SNAKE FIND US! I WANT YOU TO GIVE OUT THE INFORMATION TO ALL NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO STATIONS -- THAT I'M TAKING CHARGE OF THE ZOO'S REPTILE COLLECTION, AND THAT I SHALL START TOMORROW TO DESTROY EVERY SINGLE SERPENT IN IT!
BUT WHAT GOOD CAN THAT POSSIBLY DO? THE SNAKE WE WANT IS ALREADY LOOSE!
I KNOW -- I WANT HIM TO COME TO ME -- AND I'VE A HUNCH HE WILL! JUST LET IT BE KNOWN THAT I'M SLEEPING IN THE HEAD ZOO-KEEPER'S HOUSE TONIGHT! KEEP YOUR POLICEMEN AWAY AND LEAVE THE REST TO ME!
WELL -- OKAY, MARVEL BOY -- IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! WE WON'T BE FAR AWAY HOWEVER --
NIGHT FALLS, AND IN THE LATE ZOO KEEPER'S BEDROOM ....
THEY SAY A MURDERER ALWAYS RETURNS TO THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME -- WE'LL SEE IF THAT OLD ADAGE APPLIES TONIGHT! NOW ... WINDOWS AND DOORS LOCKED -- EVERYTHING SET -- AND SO TO BED!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER, IN THE DEAD, STILL SILENCE OF THE NIGHT, A SOFT, RUSTLING WHISPER IS HEARD NEAR THE DOOR...
...AND IMMEDIATELY...
VIPE!
NEARLY GOT ME, FRIEND!
HISSSS

I SCOFF AT THOUGHT. YOU'D BE AROUND SOMEWHERE! WHAT'S THE MATTER, JEFF? ARE YOU HURT? ARE YOU LOSING THAT SHAKE UNDER YOUR SKIN?
NAAO—NO! I—I'M ALL RIGHT! AND YOU—YOU KNOW I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING! WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU DO, ... CRUSHING THAT SNAKE UNDER YOUR HEEL? DOING—HOW COULD YOU BE SO CRUEL?
CRUEL? BUT MY DEAR GIRL! YOU TRIED TO SAVE ME! IT WAS MERELY A MATTER OF SECONDS! KINNEY MAY HAVE ESCAPED! BUT YOU—YOU'RE SAFE!
YOU—YOU WERE GOING TO SLAUGHTER ALL THOSE POOR DEFENSELESS SERPENTS! BUT—OH, PLEASE GO AWAY! I LOATHE LOATHE YOU!
YES—I THINK I MAKE LEAVE YOU ALONE, MY SLIPPERY MISS! SO YOU CAN HAVE MANY TO NURSE YOUR WOUNDS — OR DIE OF THEM!
—YOU DOUBT! I SHOW YOU! G-G-GOODBYE!
AHHHH! ... I THINK I DO UNDERSTAND! BUT ANY THE LIEUTENANT — HELLO, LIEUTENANT — THIS IS I WOULD, AND NOW I KNOW WHERE KAREN IS! KAREN DUNNE! OUTSIDE THE DEPOTLE BUILDING! YES — I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
SLIPPERY! WHAT DISAPPEARED MARVEL, NOW? THE STAND THE SERPENT! HERE, LIKE THIS! AND THE SNAKE FOUND THAT WOMAN KAREN'S SCARF ON THE GROUND! BUT NO SIGN OF ANY WOMAN!
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU'LL GET FAR! LIEUTENANT — YOU SEE, THIS PARTICULAR SNAKE WAS SLAUGHTERED OUT OF SEASON FROM A CLUE OF A WOMAN'S SCARF! AND WHO BELIEVE THAT THIS TYPE OF SNAKE HAS THE POWER TO ---
SOMEHOW, I FEEL AS IF I'M BEING WATCHED! I'M SURE I HEARD SOMETHING! I'M SURE I SAW SOMETHING! I'M SURE I FELT SOMETHING! I'M SURE I'M GOING MAD! I'M SURE I'M GOING MAD! I'M SURE I'M GOING MAD!

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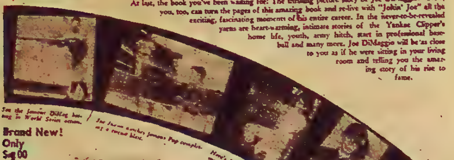

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JOHN KENYON sat in his laboratory. He sat there thinking of the life-serum he had just discovered. It was the greatest discovery since the invention of the wheel and the arch. As great as the discovery of fire. He, John Kenyon, could now bring back human beings from the dead. It had worked on dogs, cats and mice. John was sure it would work with humans. But how to test it? Who could he try it on? He sat there and thought for a long time.

There was a knock on the door. Come in, he said.

"Hello, John. Sorry to disturb you," said his young assistant, "but do you have anything around which is good for a cold?"

Kenyon stared at the young man for a moment, and then said, Yes—yes, I think I do. Come in, Pat. Come in and close the door."

He walked over to the sterilizer and withdrew a hypodermic needle. He kept his back turned to Pat as he spoke. He shown on the wall over there Pat and I'll give you something to take care of it for you.

Can't imagine where I got the darn thing," said Pat. It's very seldom such a cold.

Kenyon took down the bottle marked- X-301 - This was the fluid with which he'd killed his experimental subjects, before bringing them back to life with his Life-serum. He inserted the needle of the hypodermic into the thin rubber covering, drew the plunger back and withdrew the needle. He held it up in the air, and the drop of poisonous fluid bubbled from the bodkin point, and ran down the side steel.

"This," John Kenyon said softly, will probably knock you out at first, don't let that worry you. I have another version that will bring you back to life. I mean consciousness. He wiped the spot on Pat's arm with antiseptic and jabbed the needle underneath the skin.

John, said Pat. Are you sure—"

"Of course," answered John. You'll be as good as new, in just a little while.

Pat fell back to the pillow His open eyes took on a glazed look, and he sobbed and gurgled in a death-rattle. His hand dropped from his side, and dangled near the couch Kenyon took his pulse. It had stopped.

There is nothing wrong with this, John told himself, *I am sure that I can bring him back to life in a few minutes, and that makes it okay.* He mixed back to the sterilizer and took out another hypodermic. This time he filled it from the little brown bottle on the table. His eyes were wide and his face was flushed with anticipation. His

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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CONTINUED

hand trembled slightly as he depressed the plunger to remove any air bubbles. He walked back to the couch where the dead man lay.

"You don't know how fortunate you are, Patrick," he said, and his voice had a maniacal tone to it. "You will be the first man in the world to have visited the land of the dead, and come back to live and tell about it. So say, Sir, he plunged the needle into the lifeless arm, rubbed it to help it spread. Then he walked back to the chair where he had been sitting when the assistant had walked in. He waited.

Two hours went by.

The body began to stir. John jumped up and walked quickly over to the couch. He lifted an eyelid to check the position of Pat's eyeball, and then he took the pulse. He was rewarded by a slow beating.

"It's worked," he whispered to himself. "It's worked. I killed a man, and brought him back to life. Oh, Patrick, what things you will have to tell! What mysteries stand ready to be revealed!"

It was still Pat's face, but Kenyon didn't like the expression with which it regarded him. "What's wrong?" he asked. "don't you feel all right, Pat?"

The voice that answered him was not of this world. The tones were a deathly monotone, as of a person who has suffered untold anguish, and endless torture, and the lips hardly moved as the words hissed from behind clenched teeth.

"You — liar — murdered — me — John — Kenyon.

What are you saying?" gasped Kenyon. "You're alive, aren't you? You're talking, and moving.

"Talking — and — moving — is — that — all — there — is — to — life? You — have — murdered — me." The words came out faster now, filled with hate, and death. "You killed me and sent me to the land of death, and when my soul parted from my body, you brought me back to walk the wretched earth — a living — *deadman*. I have no soul, John Kenyon, and therefore I can never die. Never will I know the peace of eternal rest. This is what you have thrust upon me, and I will have my revenge."

"No! No! What are you going to do? I—I'm sorry, Pat. I had no idea this would happen. Only trying to help humanity. You can't blame me for that.

You had no right to take my life in your hands, came the hollow echo from the lips of the living-dead. You did it for personal glory . . . not for humanity. Other scientists would have waited and made sure, but you were in a hurry for fame and fortune, and you sacrificed me on the altar of your love.

Kenyon had backed away. He reached into the drawer of his desk and pulled out a .32 automatic. "Stop," he shouted at the advancing figure. "Stop or I'll shoot!"

Patrick let out a weird, unearthly laugh. "You are indeed a fool, John Kenyon, if you think a man without a soul, can die. What would die? My flesh? My hair? No, I tell you, only the soul that dies, his mind, his being. And now you too will know what it is like to be a dead man, walking among the living."

"No!" screamed Kenyon, "No, don't!" He emptied the clip of bullets at the stalking figure and when it clicked empty, he threw the gun at him. To no avail. The dead man came on and on, relentlessly. He grabbed at Kenyon and Kenyon fought back. He screamed again and again for help, but there was no one to listen to his pleas.

Pat had him by one arm. Slowly he twisted Kenyon's arm behind his back, until the scientist screamed in pain. Then he twisted again, and Kenyon fell to the floor in a faint. Pat reached for the poison with which Kenyon had killed him. He repeated Kenyon's movements, injecting the death-fluid and then a few minutes later injecting the serum from the little brown bottle.

He watched carefully, as Kenyon stirred. When the other's eyes opened, a semblance of smile flickered across his lips. He had had his revenge upon the man who had given him eternal life and death. Now there was no more hatred in him. He extended his hand to Kenyon to take and whispered "Welcome, Kenyon, to the world of life-in-death."

THE END

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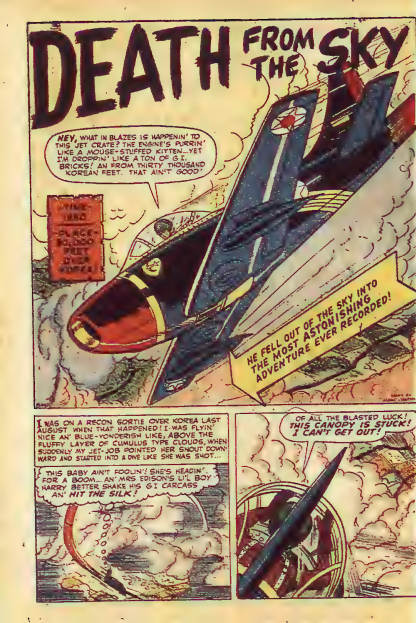
DEATH FROM THE SKY
HEY, WHAT IN BLAZES IS HAPPENIN' TO THIS JET CRATE? THE ENGINE'S PURRIN' LIKE A MOUSE-STUFFED KITTEN...YET I'M DROPPIN' LIKE A TON OF G.I. BRICKS! AN FROM THIRTY THOUSAND KOREAN FEET. THAT AIN'T GOOD!
SPACE-BOLDOO JET OVER KOREA
HE FELL OUT OF THE SKY INTO THE MOST ASTONISHING ADVENTURE EVER RECORDED!
I WAS ON A RECON SORTIE OVER KOREA LAST AUGUST WHEN THAT HAPPENED! I WAS FLYIN' NICE AN' BLUE-YONDERISH LIKE, ABOVE THE FLUFFY LAYER OF CUMULUS TYPE CLOUDS, WHEN SUDDENLY MY JEE-JOB POINTED HER SNOUT DOWN WARD AN' STARTED INTO A DIVE LIKE SHE WAS SHOT...
THIS BABY AIN'T FOOLIN'! SHE'S HEADIN' FOR A BOOM...AN' MRS EDISON'S LIL BOY HARRY BETTER SHAKE HIS G.I. CARCASS AN' HIT THE SILK!
OOOO

MY SINGLE ENGINE TURBO-JET TORE THRU THE SUMMER SKY LIKE ONE OF THOR'S THUNDERBOLTS! I WAS HEADIN' FOR THAT MASS OF BILLOWING CUMULI AN' WISHIN' THAT THOSE MOUNTAINS OF CLOUDS WOULD TURN INTO COTTON AN' MAKE A NICE, SOFT LANDIN' PLACE FOR ME AN' MY BIRD! AN' WHEN I DID REACH THEM...
HEY, WHAT BLAZES IS THIS? I'M... I'M BOUNCIN' ON THESE CLOUDS LIKE... LIKE THEY WERE A BIG MATTRESS!
I MUST'VE BOUNCED AROUND ON THAT CLOUD FOR TEN MINUTES! AN' WHEN I STOPPED I SLAPPED MY CHEEKS 'CAUSE I THOUGHT MAYBE I WAS DREAMIN'! THEN I PUT ON MY PORTABLE OXYGEN TANK AN' MASK... AN' SLAMMED OPEN THE CANOPY WITH MY FIRE EXTINGUISHER...
THIS IS FANTASTIC! I'VE ACTUALLY LANDED ON A CLOUD! WAIT'LL I REPORT THIS TO THE S-2 BOYS... THEY'LL THINK I'M SECTION-EIGHT MATERIAL! NOW I BETTER SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S AILIN' THIS CRATE!
THEN IT HAPPENED! HUNDREDS OF MIDGETS GUYS... WHITE AN' FLUFFY LIKE CLOUDS... SURROUNDED ME, SCREAMIN' AN' SCREECHIN'...
WHAT THE -- ?!? HEY, LAY OFF'A ME! WHO THE BLAZES ARE YOU GOONS ANYWAY?
TEAR OFF HIS OXYGEN MASK!
OH YEAH? TRY IT AN' YOU GET A FISTFUL OF... GREAT SCOTT! MY... MY FIST GOES RIGHT THRU THEM! IT DOESN'T HURT THEM AT ALL!
CERTAINLY NOT YOU IDOT... WE ARE INDESTRUCTIBLE!
BALONEY! THERE'S NOTHING OR NO ONE A SLUG FROM AN ARMY .45 CAN'T STOP!
BANG!
BANG!
THE.. THE BULLETS WENT RIGHT THRU THEM TOO! I CAN'T STOP THEM... NOTHING STOPS THEM!
YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY CORRECT... NOTHING CAN STOP US! NOW TEAR OFF HIS MASK!
2

NO! DON'T! I'LL DIE WITHOUT IT! GIVE IT BACK TO ME! THIS... THIS HIGH ALTITUDE WILL... WILL... KILL... OWN!
QUICK! GIVE HIM TREATMENT #2-A... BEFORE HIS HEART STOPS BEATING!
I THOUGHT THAT WAS THE END OF ME! BEING WITHOUT AN OXYGEN MASK AT 20,000 FEET IS CERTAIN DEATH... BUT WHEN I CAME TO, I WASN'T WEARING THE MASK...AND I WASN'T DEAD...
...YOU CAN BREATHE WITHOUT A MASK BECAUSE YOU ARE ONE OF US NOW, A CLOUDMAN! WE GAVE YOU A FLESH AND BONE DISSOLVING TREATMENT WHILE YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS! SOON YOUR HUMAN FORM WILL DISAPPEAR!
BUT WHY? WHAT CAN YOU GAIN BY CHANGING ME INTO A CLOUD?
WE WILL GAIN THE ENTIRE EARTH WHEN WE GET ENOUGH CLOUDMEN! WE WERE HUMANS ONCE! YOUR MISSING AIRMEN FROM THE LAST WAR... ALL THOSE PASSENGERS ON THE LOST AIRLINERS... THEY ARE ALL HERE...CHANGED INTO CLOUDMEN! AND WHEN WE OUT-NUMBER THE EARTH PEOPLE... WE WILL START OUR INVASION!
NOT ME! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE!
I'VE STILL GOT MY CHUTE ON! I'LL GET AWAY!
DON'T DO IT, YOU FOOL! IT'S TOO LATE! YOU'RE A CLOUDMAN!
...AN YOU'RE CRAZY! I'M GOING TO RETURN TO REPORT THIS TO...TO... GREAT HEAVENS! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? I'M NOT FALLING ANYMORE! I'M JUST HANGING IN SPACE!
...AND TO THIS DAY I'M STILL FLOATING IN SPACE! I'M ABOVE YOUR CITY RIGHT NOW... WATCHIN'... SPYIN'... TAKE A LOOK OUT THE WINDOW...SEE THAT WHITE, FLUFFY CLOUD SHAPED LIKE A MAN'S FACE?...
THE END
ASTONISHING
SUBSCRIBE NOW! $1.20 FOR NEXT 12 ISSUES!

Menace from the Moon!

LOOK, WATSON! THEY'RE THINGS SENT FROM THE MOON! THEY'RE COMING BACK... MAJOR THORN AND HIS MEN MADE IT, MY SPACE-SHIP IS A SUCCESS!
BY THE GREAT THUNDERATION! THAT'S ASTONISHING!- I SEE IT TO THE MOON AND BACK IS A REALITY AT LAST!
MANY STORIES HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT ROCKET TRIPS TO THE MOON...BUT NEVER WITH THE ASTONISHING FRANKNESS OF THIS ONE!
A REALITY AT LAST... THAT WAS WORTH REPEATING! SO THE MOON HAS NOT SEEN ANYTHING ABOUT THAT TRIP... IT WAS ALL TOP SECRET, SUPERVISED BY THE NAVY, BUT NOW THAT IT WAS A SUCCESS, THEY'RE READY TO SHOUT IT FROM EVERY FRONT PAGE IN AMERICA.
ALL ALL THE PAPERS, WATSON... AND THE MAGAZINES! HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST RE-PORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS? TELL THEM THAT TOMORROW THEY'LL GET THE BIGGEST STORY OF THEIR LIVES... OF MAYBE OUR LIVES!
YES, PROFESSOR JOSEWELL... I'LL DO IT IMMEDIATELY!
WE MUSN'T KEEP THE WORLD WAITING WHEN WE'VE GOT NEWS OF THIS MAGNITUDE!
NO, WE MUSTN'T, WATSON... I'M ANXIOUS TO SEE WHAT THEY'LL SAY NOW! FIVE YEARS AGO, WHEN I STATED THAT THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN OUR GENERATION, THEY LAUGHED AT ME, CALLED ME A DREAMER... A LUNATIC! WHAT WILL THEY SAY NOW?
SMACK

THAT FOLLOWING EVENING AT THE EXPERIMENTAL ROCKET FIELD IN THE ARIZONA DESERT, I FOUND OUT WHAT THEY WERE SAYING... AND IT WASN'T MUCH DIFFERENT THAN WHAT THEY SAID FIVE YEARS AGO! THEY WERE SAYING AFTER, JUST BEFORE THE FINAL COUNTDOWN...
WHAT'S ON THEIR MINDS BACK FROM THE MOON?
WHAT KIND OF GAG IS THIS?
AW, LET'S BLOW THIS GUY IS...
HEY, LOOK UP THERE!
GREAT SCOTT! IT IS ROCKET SHIP!
CERTAINLY IT IS. YOU PRESUMPTUOUS FOOLS! A SPACE SHIP TO REACH THE MOON AND RETURN! FIVE YEARS AGO I TRIED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING AT ME - YOU SHIP I WAS COURTING DESTRUCTION... NOW, LOOK, YOU IDIOTS - AND I'LL LAUGH!
OKAY, PROFESSOR. OKAY... GET READY FOR THE LAST LAUGH! THIS SET MAY BE A LITTLE OUT OF DATE, BUT YOU CAN HEAR THEM BY RADIO!
THIS SET MAY BE A LITTLE OUT OF DATE, BUT WITH RADIO AND TELE-VISION CAMERAS WITH THEM FOR FOUR HOURS RIGHT AFTER THEY LAND ON THE MOON!
WE HAVE TELEVIEW CONTACT WITH THEM... BUT THE RADIO WENT DEAD COMPLETELY!
LOOK! THEY'RE COMING! GETTING SET TO LAND!
THEY DID IT!
THIS IS THE GREATEST MOMENT OF OUR LIVES!
ALL RIGHT, OPEN THE HATCHES, AND LET'S WELCOME BACK MAJOR BLACK AND HIS MEN! THE FIRST HUMANS TO SET FOOT ON THE MOON!
AND NOW, FINALLY... OPEN HATCHES!
GREAT SCOTT! WHO ARE THESE CREATURES?
HELP! YI-I-I-!
MOONMEN! THEY'RE--ARGO!
HELP! HELP!
THE END

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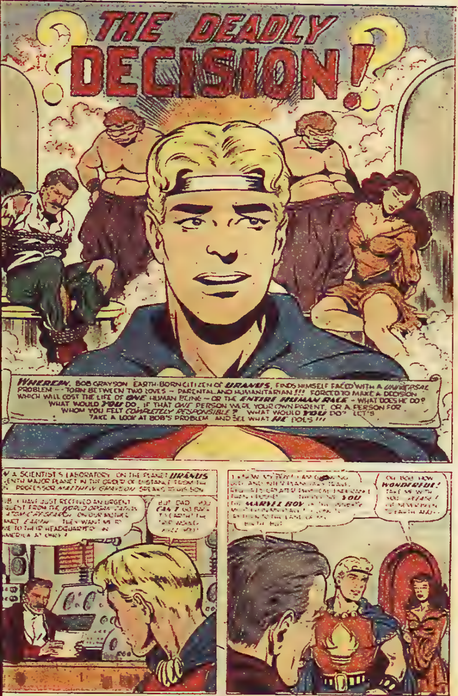
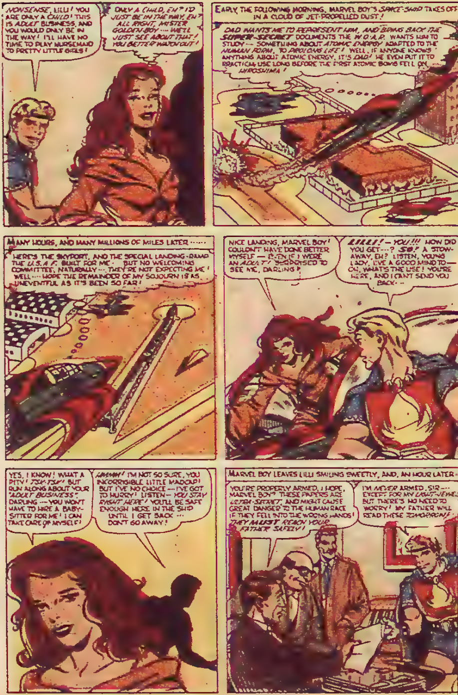
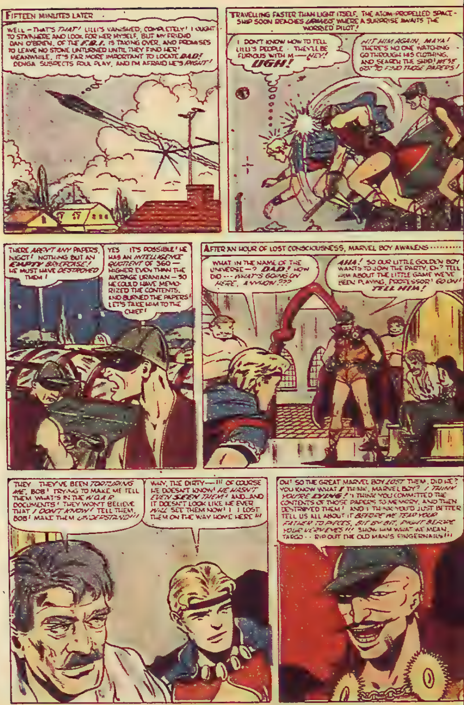
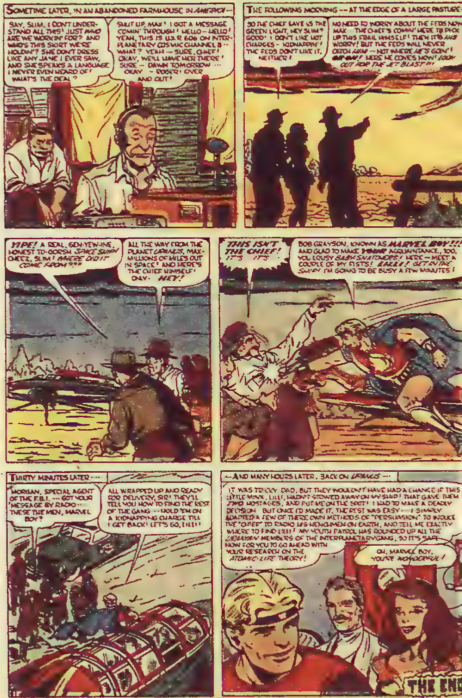

THE DEADLY DECISION!
WHEREIN, BOB GRAYSON EARTH-BORN CITIZEN OF URANUS, FINDS HIMSELF FACED WITH A UNIVERSAL PROBLEM -- TORN BETWEEN TWO LOVES -- PARENTAL AND HUMANITARIAN!!! FORCED TO MAKE A DECISION WHICH WILL COST THE LIFE OF ONE HUMAN BEING -- OR THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE -- WHAT DOES HE DO? WHAT WOULD YOU DO, IF THAT ONE PERSON WERE YOUR OWN PARENT, OR A PERSON FOR WHOM YOU FELT COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE? WHAT WOULD YOU DO? LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT BOB'S PROBLEM AND SEE WHAT HE DOES!!!
A SCIENTIST'S LABORATORY ON THE PLANET URANUS
PROFESSOR MATTHEW GRAYSON SPEAKS TO HIS SON
MARVEL BOY
WONDERFUL!


NONSENSE, LILLI! YOU ARE ONLY A CHILD! THIS IS ADULT BUSINESS, AND YOU WOULD ONLY BE IN THE WAY! I'LL HAVE NO TIME TO PLAY NURSEMAID TO PRETTY LITTLE GIRLS!
ONLY A CHILD, EH? I'D JUST BE IN THE WAY, EH? ALL RIGHT, MISTER GOLDEN-BOY --- WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT! YOU BETTER WATCH OUT!
EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING, MARVEL BOY'S SPACE-SHIP TAKES OFF IN A CLOUD OF JET-PROPELLED DUST!
DAD WANTS ME TO REPRESENT HIM, AND BRING BACK THE SUPER-SECRET DOCUMENTS THE W.O.A.R. WANTS HIM TO STUDY --- SOMETHING ABOUT ATOMIC ENERGY ADAPTED TO THE HUMAN FORM, TO PROLONG LIFE! WELL, IF ANYONE KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT ATOMIC ENERGY, IT'S DAD! HE EVEN PUT IT TO PRACTICAL USE LONG BEFORE THE FIRST ATOMIC BOMB FELL ON HIROSHIMA!
MANY HOURS, AND MANY MILLIONS OF MILES LATER ......
HERE'S THE SKYPORT, AND THE SPECIAL LANDING-RAMP THE U.S.A.F. BUILT FOR ME - BUT NO WELCOMING COMMITTEE, NATURALLY --- THEY'RE NOT EXPECTING ME! WELL --- HOPE THE REMAINDER OF MY SOJOURN IS AS UNEVENTFUL AS IT'S BEEN SO FAR!
NICE LANDING, MARVEL BOY! COULDN'T HAVE DONE BETTER MYSELF — EVEN IF I WERE AN ADULT! SURPRISED TO SEE ME, DARLING?
LILLI! — YOU!!! HOW DID YOU GET---? SO! A STOW-AWAY, EH? LISTEN, YOUNG LADY, I'VE A GOOD MIND TO— OH, WHAT'S THE USE! YOU'RE HERE, AND I CAN'T SEND YOU BACK---
YES, I KNOW! WHAT A PITY! TSK-TSK! BUT RUN ALONG ABOUT YOUR "ADULT BUSINESS", DARLING --- YOU WON'T HAVE TO HIRE A BABY-SITTER FOR ME! I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!
MMMM! I'M NOT SO SURE, YOU INCORRIGIBLE LITTLE MADCAP! BUT I'VE NO CHOICE --- I'VE GOT TO HURRY! LISTEN— YOU STAY RIGHT HERE! YOU'LL BE SAFE ENOUGH HERE IN THE SHIP UNTIL I GET BACK --- DON'T GO AWAY!
MARVEL BOY LEAVES LILLI SMILING SWEETLY, AND, AN HOUR LATER
YOU'RE PROPERLY ARMED, I HOPE, MARVEL BOY? THESE PAPERS ARE ULTRA-SECRET, AND MIGHT CAUSE GREAT DANGER TO THE HUMAN RACE IF THEY FELL INTO THE WRONG HANDS! THEY MUST REACH YOUR FATHER SAFELY!
I'M NEVER ARMED, SIR --- EXCEPT FOR MY LIGHT-JEWELS BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY! MY FATHER WILL READ THESE TOMORROW!

CONFIDENTLY, MARVEL BOY LEAVES THE ANXIOUS SCIENTISTS, AND TEN MINUTES LATER, RETURNING TO THE SKYPORT----
THERE HE IS! NOW!
WELL, WELL, WELL! WHAT HAVE WE HERE? THIS WOULDN'T BE A HOLD-UP, WOULD IT, KIDDIES?
OF COURSE I'M NOT QUITE AS STRONG HERE ON EARTH AS I AM ON URANUS. BUT I CAN STILL THROW MY WEIGHT AROUND — AND THIS BRIEFCASE MAKES A HANDY WEAPON! LET'S HAVE A LITTLE LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT!
YI-I-IY! THAT LIGHT!!! IT'S BLINDING ME!
ACH! THAT DEMON! HE AIN'T HUMAN! WHAT WAS THAT EXPLOSION? I STILL CAN'T SEE A SINGLE THING!
I DON'T KNOW! IT WAS LIKE A THOUSAND PHOTO-FLASH BULBS! BUT HE WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! SOME OF OUR MEN ARE ALREADY AT THE SKYPORT WHERE HE LEFT HIS SPACE-SHIP!
MAYBE I WAS TOO OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE "PEACEFUL NATURE" OF THIS TRIP! LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE STARTING TO POP! HOWEVER-- SEEMS PEACEFUL ENOUGH HERE... LILLI PROBABLY FELL ASLEEP WAITING FOR ME! OH, LILLI!
HEY, LILLI — WAKE UP! IT'S TIME TO --- SUFFERIN' SATELLITES! SHE'S GONE! THE LITTLE MINX MUST HAVE WANDERED -- BUT NO! THERE'S HER HANDBAG! SHE WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT IT BEHIND, IF --- UNLESS — I'D BETTER REPORT TO DAD!
MARVEL BOY--SPACESHIP M.B. 1 TO URANUS X Y 3 VIA INTERPLANETARY COSMIC CHANNEL 4 ---- HELLO? HELLO! DAD? OH, IT'S YOU, DENGA — WHERE'S DAD? WHAT??? HE'S DISAPPEARED! BUT, WHAT --? OH! GOOD GRIEF, THIS IS BAD! THINGS ARE REALLY HAPPENING FAST NOW! LOOK, DENGA — PUT THE URANIAN YOUTH PATROL ON THE TRAIL, TO SEE WHAT THEY CAN PICK UP! I'LL BE WITH YOU AS SOON AS I DO SOMETHING ABOUT ANOTHER DISAPPEARANCE HERE!
3


FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER
WELL — THAT'S THAT! LILLI'S VANISHED, COMPLETELY! I OUGHT TO STAY HERE AND LOOK FOR HER MYSELF, BUT MY FRIEND DAN O'BRIEN, OF THE F.B.I. IS TAKING OVER, AND PROMISES TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED UNTIL THEY FIND HER! MEANWHILE, IT'S FAR MORE IMPORTANT TO LOCATE DAD! DENGA SUSPECTS FOUL PLAY, AND I'M AFRAID HE'S RIGHT!
TRAVELLING FASTER THAN LIGHT ITSELF, THE ATOM-PROPELLED SPACE-SHIP SOON REACHES URANUS, WHERE A SURPRISE AWAITS THE WORRIED PILOT!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TELL LILLI'S PEOPLE · THEY'LL BE FURIOUS WITH M — HEY! UGH!
HIT HIM AGAIN, MAYA! THERE'S NO ONE WATCHING · GO THROUGH HIS CLOTHING, AND SEARCH THE SHIP! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THOSE PAPERS!
THERE AREN'T ANY PAPERS, NIGOT! NOTHING BUT AN EMPTY BRIEFCASE! HE MUST HAVE DESTROYED THEM!
YES · IT'S POSSIBLE! HE HAS AN INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT OF 360 — HIGHER EVEN THAN THE AVERAGE URANIAN — SO HE COULD HAVE MEMORIZED THE CONTENTS, AND BURNED THE PAPERS! LET'S TAKE HIM TO THE CHIEF!
AFTER AN HOUR OF LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, MARVEL BOY AWAKENS ....
WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE UNIVERSE —? DAD! HOW DID --- WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, ANYHOW???
AHA! SO OUR LITTLE GOLDEN BOY WANTS TO JOIN THE PARTY, EH? TELL HIM ABOUT THE LITTLE GAME WE'VE BEEN PLAYING, PROFESSOR! GO ON! TELL HIM!
THEY · THEY'VE BEEN TORTURING ME, BOB! TRYING TO MAKE ME TELL THEM WHAT'S IN THE W.Q.A.R. DOCUMENTS! THEY WON'T BELIEVE THAT I DON'T KNOW! TELL THEM, BOB! MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND!!!
WHY, THE DIRTY—!!! OF COURSE HE DOESN'T KNOW! HE HASN'T EVEN SEEN THEM! AND...AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE EVER WILL SEE THEM NOW! I · I LOST THEM ON THE WAY HOME HERE!!!
OH! SO THE GREAT MARVEL BOY LOST THEM, DID HE? YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK, MARVEL BOY? I THINK YOU'RE LYING! I THINK YOU COMMITTED THE CONTENTS OF THOSE PAPERS TO MEMORY, AND THEN DESTROYED THEM! AND I THINK YOU'D JUST BETTER TELL US ALL ABOUT IT BEFORE WE TEAR YOUR FATHER TO PIECES, BIT BY BIT, RIGHT BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES!!! SHOW HIM WHAT WE MEAN, TARGO · · RIP OUT THE OLD MAN'S FINGERNAILS!!!

WAIT! MY FATHER'S OLD! TORTURE WILL KILL HIM! I'LL TELL YOU WHAT WAS IN THOSE DOCUMENTS! LISTEN IN ESSENCE, IT'S A PLAN DEVISED BY HERR DOKTER KARL MARXIT, OF GERMANY, TO EXPLODE THE COSMIC ATOM IN SUCH A WAY AS TO TRAP AND CONDENSE ITS RADIOACTIVITY INTO A PHYSICAL SUBSTANCE WHICH MAY BE INTRODUCED INTO THE HUMAN BODY WITH THE ULTIMATE RESULT OF PROLONGING LIFE FAR BEYOND THE NORMAL SPAN! BUT THE THEORY IS FULL OF MATHEMATICAL FORMULAE WHICH I SHALL HAVE TO WRITE DOWN FOR YOU -- YOU WILL JUST UNTIE ME, AND GIVE ME A PENCIL---?
WHY, OF COURSE, MARVEL BOY! I MUST CONFESS I HARDLY EXPECTED SUCH COOPERATION! HERE, WRITE OUT THE ENTIRE THEORY!
ALL RIGHT... BUT UNTIE MY FATHER FIRST! WE CAN'T GET AWAY — THERE ARE TOO MANY OF YOU! LET HIM BE COMFORTABLE ANYWAY!
THAT'S FINE - THANKS! NOW THEN, LET'S SEE — WE START WITH THE LAW THAT THE RADIATION ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSITION OF THE ATOM MUST BE MONOCHROMATIC AND OF FREQUENCY SUCH THAT ... WHERE ... IS PLANCK'S CONSTANT, AND--- OOOPS! MY WRIST SLIPPED!!!
EEEYI-I-Y! THAT LIGHT! I CAN'T SEE!!!
WHAT A SHAME, OLD BOY — JUST WHAT I WAS COUNTING ON! QUICK, DAD — OUT THAT SIDE DOOR WHILE I KEEP THESE MORONS BUSY! I'LL JOIN YOU LATER!
NO! NO! DON'T LET HIM— OOOF!!!
TOO BAD, MY CARELESS FRIEND! HE'S ALREADY GONE — AND THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE HIM, HE'LL HAVE A COUPLE OF INTERSTELLAR SPACE PATROLMEN TO INTRODUCE YOU TO!
BAH! THINK YOU'RE SMART, DON'T YOU? MARBLE-HEAD! YOU FORGET MY ACE-IN-THE-HOLE — LILLI! MY MEN ARE HOLDING HER DOWN ON EARTH — AND IF YOU DON'T FINISH TELLING ME THE REST OF THAT ATOMIC-LIFE THEORY, SHE'LL DIE, BY SLOW TORTURE!!!
LILLI! GREAT JUMPIN' JUPITER, I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT HER! THIS LUNATIC'S RIGHT — HE'S GOT ME OVER A BARREL! IF I DON'T DIVULGE THE N O A R SECRETS, SHE'LL DIE A HORRIBLE DEATH — AND IF I DO, WHO KNOWS WHAT MAY HAPPEN IF A GANG OF SPACE-GANGSTERS GET THEIR HANDS ON IT? WHAT A DECISION TO HAVE TO MAKE!!! WHAT'LL I DO? THERE MUST BE A WAY OUT! THERE -- THERE IS A WAY OUT! I KNOW NOW---
5



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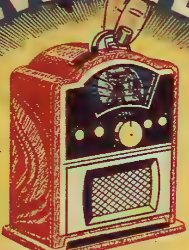

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LIGHTS UP THE MINUTE YOU DROP COIN! Just click a penny, nickel, dime or quarter into top slot. Instantly your grand new Television Bank lights up—in a big, BIG way! In a split second, the screen leaps into dazzling life!

AND WOW! WHAT A PICTURE! Whether you go for "zowie" shows (fights and such) or want a dream dance-team or peppy cartoon, you've got them—and MORE—right on this miracle Television Bank! What's more, shining convex lens over screen gives you the brightest, clearest, pictures yet!

TURN OF KNOB SHOWS NEXT EXCITING PICTURE! When you've looked your admiring fill at one picture, just turn center knob for next thrill-packed "show." Light goes out automatically as new picture appears! To light new picture, bank another coin. No less than SIX exciting pictures in all—a fight, dramatic dance team, tense rodeo scene, hilarious cartoon, swell figure skater and circus clown with his trick dog!

PUTS YOU "IN THE MONEY"—AND FAST! Your savings pile up PLENTY FAST—and with this marvelous new Television Bank! None of your friends, relatives or chance visitors can resist depositing enough to see the complete show! And with SIX wonderful pictures to see — you bank REAL MONEY just for letting them look!

IT'S A HONEY — IN EVERY DETAIL! You'll be the envy of all your friends with grand new Television Bank! A console model, it's an exact miniature of the most expensive sets. Complete even to the handsomely painted-on speaker grille and dials. All metal ruggedly built bank, 4¼" x 4", has smart mahogany finish. Automatic screen light powered by efficient, replaceable battery. GUARANTEED TO DELIGHT YOU, bank comes complete with bulb, battery and strong key for opening and emptying out your wealth of savings.

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H. F. is a liquid that doesn't stain. You just paint the infected parts nightly before going to bed. Often the terrible itching is relieved at once.

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